

(a) *Constanța*

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Constanța, which is situated on the Black Sea and is Rumania's most modern port, is, in fact, her only port actually on the coast, and before the war was, therefore, of some considerable importance. Since the Russian campaign, however, its significance has dwindled enormously, due to the presence of Russian submarines in the Black Sea and to the curtailment of Rumania's overseas markets, which means that trade is mainly carried on the Danube and by rail.

Exports from Constanța consisted mainly of petroleum products which came by pipe-line from the Ploesti district. A considerable portion of the country's general trade, including some cereal export, was also handled here.

[503] Heavy draught ships can anchor in Constanța harbour, but continued dredging is necessary inside the harbour to maintain the various depths. The estimated daily general-cargo discharging capacity of the port is about 7,200 tons. Total capacity for oil storage is about 660,000 tons at and in the vicinity of Constanța.

(b) *Brăila*

Brăila, which is situated on the left bank of the Danube, is the normal limit of navigation on the Danube for ocean-going vessels. It is the principal port for grain export and is well equipped with grain-handling facilities, such as silos, elevators, etc. Small quantities of timber are also handled.

The width of the river channel at Brăila is normally 330 yards, though greater during the spring floods.

The estimated daily general-cargo discharging capacity is about 3,000 tons.

Grain is usually loaded into ocean-going vessels by floating elevators, the working capacity of which is estimated to be about 150 tons per hour under normal working conditions.

Total warehouse capacity of all the warehouses in the dock basin section for storing goods is 6,400 tons.

(c) *Galati*

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This port is also situated on the left bank of the river Danube and is the chief inland port of entry into Rumania, as well as being the headquarters of the Rumanian navy. It is the centre of the timber export trade, being situated just below the junction of the Siret River down which most of the wood from the Carpathians is floated. It is also well situated for the receipt of timber by rail from the Bucovina and from North Moldavia.

CHAPTER XI

463 industrial labour. One-third of all workers engaged in industry are independent artisans, on whom the community is dependent for its services, but who do not play any important part in war production. In certain of the larger armament works German controllers have effected a considerable degree of rationalisation.

3. Mining

316 There is a shortage of miners; Russian prisoners of war have been employed in mining during 1942. Many miners were reported to have been included in the territory transferred to Hungary.

4. Armament Works

719 There is a general shortage of labour in metal and engineering factories, particularly of skilled labour. A 12-hour day was legalised at the beginning of 1942, but it is doubtful if in fact a 12-hour day is ever worked.

5. Timber

313 There is a shortage of labour, both for lumbering and for timber manufacture.

6. Textiles and Clothing

464 The total number of workers in these industries has probably fallen considerably, due to reduction of available raw materials. The delivery of supplies to individual mills seems to be somewhat erratic, and there is evidence of considerable part-time work, for instance in a survey of some 43 factories, in December, 1942, 11 were working full time, 21 on a reduced scale, and 11 at a very reduced scale.

7. Building

499 The extent of fortification building and general road and rail construction in Rumania is unknown, but in the second half of 1942 there was evidence of a scarcity of general labour for such projects, and of Russian prisoners of war working on rail construction.

438 In the other branches of occupation, transport services, etc., there is no evidence of labour shortage, apart from doctors, many of whom have been mobilised for the army.

D. CONTROL OF LABOUR

1. The Youth Labour Service

466 A youth labour service founded on the German model was established in March 1941. The leaders were trained in Germany, but it was only in April 1942 that the labour camps began to function. Youths are called up in their 19th-20th year, and the period of service lasts 7 months.

(See Part II, Chapter V.B. for further details.)

2. Civil Mobilisation

466 A general civil mobilisation decree was passed in May 1941 by which (1) employment cards were introduced; (2) men and women aged 20-57 were liable to compulsory employment if not employed.

Two subsequent decrees were published in March and May 1943, one for the reorganisation of agriculture, forestry and fishing, and the second for the reorganisation of industry. Each of these decrees gave full powers to the appropriate authorities for the mobilisation and transfer of labour.

In addition to the general labour decrees which have so far had little influence on the labour situation, there have been regional decrees applying to individual localities, e.g. in Bessarabia, in February 1942, all the inhabitants aged 12-70 were called upon for compulsory agricultural labour unless already employed.

The roof is steeper than in the plains and protrudes further over the house. The support is in the form of a collar. The rafters tend to be too widely spaced, which results in slight bending of the battens; but, while it makes for a weaker roof, this results in softer and more pleasing lines. The four corners are not sharp but tend to be rounded (fig. 62). Wooden shingles are almost exclusively used for roof covering. They are about 15 centimeters wide and may be as long as 3 meters. They overlap two to four times. Shorter shingles form 6-10 rows. The smaller shingles may have their ends in the form of swallow tails or other decorative shapes. The ridge shows a special development. On the windward side the first layer of shingles is made to protrude over the ridgepole (fig. 62). These shingles also have excised patterns and are very ornamental. The ridgepoles may extend slightly over the hip and have a small gabled roof, one shingle in height (fig. 62). This provides an opening for the smoke to escape through. Ornamental poles rise at either end of the ridgepole (fig. 61).

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Chimneys are lacking and the smoke may escape through openings at the ridge or otherwise through the roof, which then shows all shades of gray to black. In some areas of Oltenia in southwestern Rumania one finds wooden chimneys (fig. 65). These are made of wicker and daub and are covered with shingles.

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A special development in the foothills of the Southern Carpathian Mountains is the privy, which is in the form of an annex located at the end of the veranda (fig. 64b).

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In general the buildings in the mountain districts show a greater variation than those of the plains. The woodwork is superior, and shows a great deal of inventiveness. The construction, however, is irregular, sloppy and often not functional. Pillars that carry no weight may be very thick, while those that must support much weight may be much too slender (Jänecke, 1918: 35-43).

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Kulas (fig. 67) are found only in the mountainous regions of Oltenia in the district of Mehedinți, Gorj and Râmnicu-Vâlcea. They were built by the boyars, the wealthy landowners. The oldest ones come from the period when the Rumanian rulers were paying tribute to the sultan. The ground plan is a square 7 by 12 meters in length. The width of the walls is 30-70 centimeters. The kula (fig. 67) may have three or four stories, each about 2.5 meters in height. Each story has one room. The ground floor is used for storage; sometimes a well is built into it, and occasionally there is a subterranean escape passage. The upper floors may also be used for storage, but are mainly living quarters. Windows are generally found only on one side; the other walls are provided with loopholes. On the top floor there is generally an open veranda (čerdak) about 3 meters wide, the roof over which is supported by pillars (fig. 67). The exposure is toward the valley and the south. On the side opposite the čerdak there is a simple wooden balcony under the eaves (fig. 67). Many kulas have a privy tower attached to them.

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The stairway, about 1.25 meters wide made of massive logs, is generally on the inside of the buildings; when it is located on the outside it leads onto the wooden balcony. The exterior is white-washed. In addition, the surface is decorated with molded bands around each story division. There may also be a vertical division, thus creating a number of large panels. While these areas are symmetrical, neither they nor the molded bands that enclose them have any relation to the placing of windows or pillars (Jänecke, 1918: 62-63).

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In 1895 there still existed about 55,000 earth huts (*bordoi*) which were inhabited by the poorest population, generally Gypsies (fig. 63). They are common in the Danubian plain. Over an excavation 1-3 meters deep is placed a gabled roof. The roof is made of boards over which earth is laid. Sometimes reeds are placed over the boards before the earthen cover is added. The entrance is on one of the gabled sides, generally with a southerly exposure, and a window is placed on each gable side (Jänecke, 1918: 4).

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Farm Buildings. In the lowlands the buildings are arranged in no definite order; though generally the house is closest to the road. The corn-house (*coşar*) is either opposite to or at right angles to the house so that it can be watched. The yard and orchard are surrounded by a fence. The simplest fence is made of wickerwork between wooden poles. More often, however, it is made of boards that have intricate excised designs (fig. 60). The wealthy people may add an imposing gateway with a small door. Flower or vegetable gardens are rare, and the latter are called *bulgări*, since they are generally kept by immigrant Bulgarians who grow all the vegetables for town consumption (Stratilesco, 1907: 233). The farmstead is surrounded by shady trees, and there is generally a plum orchard at the back of the farm buildings (Jänecke, 1918: 8-9).

In the mountain regions the arrangement of the buildings in the yard differs from that of the lowlands. The stables and other buildings are common on the border of the yard in a horseshoe form to serve as protection for the house. The yard is usually very small, and has a strong high palisade with a massive gateway, the whole giving the farm a fortress-like appearance (the author points to the presence of bears in summer and wolves in winter) (Jänecke, 1918: 32-35).

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In the lowlands there are generally not many additional farm buildings in the yard, and this fact is correlated with the pattern of building additional annexes to the house, a more economical and practical procedure. Stables are of the simplest lathwork or wickerwork, covered with a straw roof. Sheds for the storage of straw, hay and cornstalks are absent, for the latter are stacked into tall round piles in the open. The baking oven for summer use, made of mud and bricks, has a hipped roof supported by four pillars.